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Letter dated 19 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement on Burundi issued on 19 September 2000 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) Jean-David **Levitte**
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 19 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union concerning Burundi

The European Union,

Referring to the agreement signed in Arusha on 28 August 2000 and to the statement which it made on 29 August 2000:

(a) Warmly welcomes the mediator's decision to hold a further session of negotiations in Nairobi on Wednesday, 20 September with the participation of the Burundian Government, representatives of the rebel movements and those parties which have not yet signed the agreement but have undertaken to do so at the Nairobi meeting,

(b) Points to the urgency of finalizing a peace accord that has the wholehearted agreement of all parties in Burundi, without which there is no prospect of lasting national reconciliation,

(c) Stresses the need for the political agreement to be swiftly consolidated by an immediate, general ceasefire if the political agreement is to be implemented, the country rapidly reconstructed and above all the fervent wish of all Burundians for the restoration of civil peace throughout the country is to become a reality,

(d) Therefore encourages the leadership of the rebel movements to respond to the mediator's invitation, and to his expectations and those of the entire international community, by taking part in the meeting with the Burundian Government and the others on the political scene in a constructive and responsible frame of mind, for the good of the Burundian people and of peace,

(e) Urges all the countries which are friends of Burundi and all those whose advice Burundians value to work actively for the success of this important meeting for the future of the peace process,

(f) Reiterates its readiness to help this process succeed and to restore peace in Burundi, in particular through its aid for the rehabilitation and development of the country.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.